

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02217 070957Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 /059 W

----- 088959

R 070915Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9074

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TW, CH

SUBJECT: LOCAL PRESS COMMENT ON RECENT MAINLAND DISTURBANCES

1. RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN PEKING'S T'IENT AN MEN SQUARE HAVE BEEN WIDELY REPORTED AND COMMENTED UPON BY TAIPEI MEDIA. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS EMPHASIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DISTURBANCES, AND INTERPRETED THEM AS MANIFESTATIONS OF A GENERAL MALIASE WHICH COULD TOPPLE THE MAOIST REGIME.

2. PREMIER CHIANG, PRESENTING HIS NEW BUDGET YESTERDAY IN THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN, TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE MAINLAND SITUATION. HE LINKED THE PEKING DISORDERS WITH EARLIER ONES WHICH HE CLAIMED OCCURRED IN SHANGHAI, HANGCHOW, WUSHIH AND NE CHINA, AND ANTICIPATED FURTHER EXPANSION OF THIS POWER STRUGGLE. HE URGED CHINESE ON THE MAINLAND TO RISE IN REVOLT AGAINST THE MAINLAND REGIME, AND PROMISED "WE DEFINITELY WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO SUPPORT YOUR ANTI-TYRANNY ACTION." THE PREMIER'S APPEAL WAS PROMINENTLY PUBLICIZED AND EDITORALLY SUPPORTED IN MOST PAPERS TODAY.

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3. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT THE PUBLIC TREATMENT OF THE
DISTURBANCES RUNS THE THEME THAT THE MAINLAND COMPATRIOTS
THEMSELVES WILL OVERTHROW THE PEKING GOVERNMENT, WITH
THE IMPLICIT UNDERSTANDING THAT NO MORE THAN ENCOURAGING
CHEERS WILL BE NEEDED FROM TAIWAN. UNGER

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